

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AGRE-00 HA-05 PC-01 L-03
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P R 252255Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9391
INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 4492

STATE ALSO FOR LA/MRSD (GEORGE PHILLIPS) AND ARA/RPP
(JOHN O'GRADY)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB SHUM E AID PGOV ES
SUBJ: EMBASSY INFORMS AIFLD EMPLOYEE OF GOES DECISION NOT TO
RENEW HIS VISA

REF: (A) SAN SALVADOR 4440, (B) CHAVEZ MEMCON OF 5/25/78

SUMMARY. ON AUGUST 24, ADCM AND LABOR OFFICER INFORMED AL
WARREN OF IESCA/GUATEMALA, AND AIFLD EMPLOYEE RICHARD OULAHAN
OF GOES DECISION NOT TO RENEW OULAHAN'S TOURIST VISA. WARREN
INDICATED THAT AFL-CIO AND AIFLD WOULD PROBABLY SEEK TO SECURE
OULAHAN'S CONTINUED PRESENCE IN EL SALVADOR. END SUMMARY.

1. LATE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 24, ADCM AND LABOR OFFICER
INFORMED RICHARD OULAHAN AND AL WARREN OF IESCA/GUATEMALA
OF GOES DECISION THAT HIS TOURIST VISA WOULD NOT BE RENEWED
(SEE REF A). OULAHAN CONFIRMED THAT HIS TOURIST VISA WOULD
NOT EXPIRE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 14 AND SAID THAT HE WOULD
PROBABLY CONTINUE WITH COURSES ON ACCOUNTING AND ADMINIS-
TRATION BEING GIVEN FOR UCS AT AYAGUALO. OULAHAN
COMMENTED THAT THE MOVE TO OUST HIM WAS A FURTHER
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INDICATION THAT GOES WAS OUT TO "ISOLATE AND DESTROY"
THE UNION COMUNAL SALVADORENA (UCS) AND THAT GOES
DECISION NOT TO RENEW HIS VISA WOULD BE INTERPRETED
THE SAME WAY BY UCS.

2. OULAHAN STATED THAT HE WOULD ASK FOR A MEETING
SOON OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (CEN) OF UCS TO

INFORM ITS MEMBERS OF GOES DECISION. WARREN SAID THAT HE WOULD ASK FELIPE ZALDIVAR (SECRETARY-GENERAL OF FEDERATION OF UNIONS OF CONSTRUCTION, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER WORKERS - FESINCONSTRANS) TO USE WHAT CONTACTS HE HAS IN GOVERNMENT TO INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF OULAHAN. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT, AS A CONSEQUENCE OF GOES DECISION ON OULAHAN, AIFLD MIGHT WELL CUT BACK ON SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER AID TO GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF UNIONS (CGS), A LABOR ENTITY FAVORED BY GOES.

3. IN AUGUST 24 DINNER CONVERSATION WITH LABOR OFFICER, WARREN AND OULAHAN SAID THEY WOULD INFORM SAM HADDAD (DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AIFLD) THAT NIGHT ABOUT THE SITUATION AND WOULD AWAIT HIS INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE MATTER. WARREN INDICATED THAT THERE WAS NO PROBLEM IN HAVING RUPERT SKOFIELD LEAVE AS SCHEDULED ON SEPT 1, BUT SAID THAT HE THOUGHT AIFLD WOULD TRY TO ENSURE OULAHAN'S CONTINUED PRESENCE IN EL SALVADOR. WARREN WAS OF OPINION THAT IF OULAHAN WERE FORCED TO LEAVE SEPTEMBER 14, THAT AIFLD WOULD FIND IT HARD TO GET ANOTHER EMPLOYEE INTO EL SALVADOR ON A PERMANENT BASIS ANYTIME SOON. WARREN ALSO INDICATED THAT, CONCERNING THIS OULAHAN MATTER, AFL-CIO AND AIFLD WOULD PROBABLY GET IN TOUCH WITH AID DIRECTOR JOHN GILLIGAN, THE OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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SOME CONGRESSMEN.

4. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION, WARREN ASKED IF IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR EMBASSY TO ARRANGE A MEETING FOR HIM AND OULAHAN WITH PRESIDENT OF SUPREME COURT (AND EX-MINISTER OF LABOR) ROGELIO CHAVEZ. WARREN SAID HE WANTED TO REMIND CHAVEZ OF MAY 25 CONVERSATION (SEE REF B) IN WHICH CHAVEZ HAD INDICATED THAT GOES MIGHT BE WILLING TO PERMIT AIFLD (PENDING ITS FULL RETURN TO EL SALVADOR) TO INITIATE INTERIM MEASURES TO HELP UCS WITH ITS ACCOUNTING AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS. WARREN STATED THAT OULAHAN'S PRESENCE AND SEMINARS IN AYLGUALO WERE EXAMPLES OF SUCH "INTERIM MEASURES", AND THAT GOES ACTIONS CONDEMNING OULAHAN WENT AGAINST THIS CONCEPT. LABOR OFFICER POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS WEAK REED ON WHICH TO BASE OULAHAN'S CONTINUED PRESENCE AS CHAVEZ HAD INDICATED THAT SUCH INTERIM MEASURES WOULD HAVE TO BE AGREED ON BEFOREHAND BETWEEN GOES AND AIFLD, A CONDITION THAT HAD NOT BEEN MET IN OULAHAN'S CASE. WARREN SAID THAT AN INTERVIEW WITH CHAVEZ WOULD BE HELPFUL IN ANY CASE. LABOR OFFICER PASSED REQUEST ON THE ADCM, WHO ARRANGED NOON APPOINTMENT WITH CHAVEZ

ON AUGUST 25 FOR WARREN AND OULAHAN.

5. WARREN AND OULAHAN ALSO DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH CHARGE AFTERNOON 25 AUGUST AND ASKED THAT EMBASSY ATTEMPT ARRANGE APPOINTMENT FOR OULAHAN WITH MINISTER OF LABOR AT WHICH OULAHAN (WITHOUT EMBASSY PRESENCE) WOULD TRY TO CLEAR UP APPARENT "MISUNDERSTANDINGS" AND ASK FOR EXTENSION HIS STAY HERE. CHARGE SAID HE WOULD PREFER TO AWAIT WASHINGTON REACTION TO HIS CABLE ON MEETING WITH THREE MINISTERS ON 23 AUGUST BUT IN ANY EVENT IT WAS AGREED POSSIBLE ACTION BY CHAVEZ WOULD BE AWAITED UNTIL NEXT TUESDAY PM BEFORE DECISION ON APPROACH TO MINISTER OF LABOR IS MADE. WE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAI MINISTER OF LABOR WOULD BE EASILY REACHED ON THIS MATTER OR THAT HE
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WOULD REACT POSITIVELY SINCE MINISTERS OBVIOUSLY HAD BEEN DIRECTED SPECIFICALLY BY PRESIDENT ROMERO IN THIS CASE.
LUBENSKY

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